

## Message Text

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44

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 DLOS-06 DRC-01 /132 W

----- 062228

R 070903Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5840

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMCONSUL MEDAN

CINCPAC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KUALA LUMPUR 5373

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PBOR, MY, ID

SUBJECT: GOM-GOI BORDER COMMITTEE AND STRAIT OF MALACCA

REF: KUALA LUMPUR 5029

1. SUMMARY: MALAYSIA-INDONESIA GENERAL BORDER COMMITTEE (GBC) MET IN PENANG THIS WEEK AND, INTER ALIA, REAFFIRMED JOINT GOM/(698 POSITION ON CLAIM TO MALACCA STRAIT, DETAILED PROCEDURES FOR LAND, SEA AND AIR PATROLLING IN ATTEMPT TO STEM ACITIVITIES OF BOTH COMMUNIST AND CRIMINAL ELEMENTS, AND AGREED THAT JOINT NAVAL EXERCISE WOULD BE CONDUCTED IN STRAIT DEC 19-24. IN STATEMENT DEC 4, GOM HOME AFFAIRS/INFOMRATION MINISTER GHAZALI SHAFIE SAID REITERATION OF GOM/GOI CLAIM TO STRAIT "NOT INTENDED AS SHOW OF STRNEGTH" AND NOT MEANT TO INTERFERE WITH INTER-NATIONAL SHIPPING THROUGH STRAIT; HOWEVER, BOTH COUNTRIES ARE CONCERNED ABOUT POLLUTION IN STRAIT WHICH THREATENS LIVELIHOOD OF "GREAT NUMBER OF PEOPLE." JOINT NAVAL EXERCISE IS FOLLOW-ON TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AGREEMENTS LAST YEAR AND FIRST JOINT EXERCISE IN MAY OF THIS YEAR.

END SUMMARY.

2. ALTHOUGH FINAL COMMUNIQUE OF GBC MEETING NOT YET AVAILABLE, PRESS REPORTS INDICATE GOM AND GOI DELEGATIONS FURTHER REFINED DETAILED PROCEDURES FOR BORDER PATROLLING, INCLUDING MALACCA STRAIT SEALANE AS WELL AS SARAWAK-SABAH/KALIMANTAN LAND BORDER. IN PRESS STATEMENT, GOM DELEGATION HEADED BY GHAZALI SHAFIE AND GOI DELEGATION UNDER DEFMIN GEN PANGGABEAN PREDICTABLY REITERATED RESPECTIVE NATIONAL CLAIMS TO STRAIT BUT, ABHVKLIFIED BY GHAZALI, JOINT STEMETS NOT MEANT AS "SHOW OF STRENGTH" OR TO IMPEDE INTL SHIPPING THROUGH STRAIT. GHAZALI ALSO EXPRESSED CONCERN OF BOTH NATIONS OVER POLLUTION IN STRAIT WHICH THREATENSGIVELIHOOD OF FISHERMEN AND OTHERS ALONG COAST.

3. GOM AND GOI ALSO WOREED TO CONDUCT JOINT NAVAL EXERCISE DEC 19-24 IN MALACCA STRAIT. FOURTEEN SHIPS IN ALL WILL PARTICIPATE; GOM WILL PROVIDE NINE PATROL BOATS, STRIKE CRAFT AND MINESWEEPERS WHILE GOI CONTINGENT WILL INCLUDE FIVE SUBMARINE CHASERS AND DESTROYER ESCORTS. (SIMILAR EXERCISE WAS HELD IN MAY 1973 IN ACCORDNACE WIHX BORDER COMMITTEE AGREEMENTS WORKED OUT IN JULY AND SEP 1972.)

4. COMMENT: PENDING RECEIPT FULLER REPORT ON GBC SESSION, IT APPEARS FROM PUBLIC PRONOUNCEMENTS THAT GOM AND GOI CONTINUED TO DEVELOP HEALTHY RELATIONSHIP BUILT UP IN PREVIOUS MEETINGS. GHAZALI STATMENTS ON MALACCA STRAIT ARE LOW-KEY IN KEEPING WITH RECENT GOM POSTURE ON ISSUE REFTEL). HIS STRESS ON POLLUTION ISSUE, RATHER THAN ON SECURITY OR SOVEREIGNTY, MAY BE SIGNAL THAT GOM POSITION ON STRAITS IS NEGOTIABLE.  
LYDMAN

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLLUTION, STRAITS, NAVAL EXERCISES, MEETINGS, COMMUNIQUE, BORDER GUARDS, BOUNDARY COMMISSIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
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**Line Count:** 91  
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**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** KUALA LUMPUR 5029  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** golinofr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 26 NOV 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <26-Nov-2001 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <17-Dec-2001 by golinofr>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** GOM-GOI BORDER COMMITTEE AND STRAIT OF MALACCA  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PBOR, MY, ID  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005